AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

A. On page 1, amend the title as follows:

delete "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE CRYPTOGRAPHIC KEY

STORAGE, CERTIFICATION AND USE" and insert – COMPUTER-READABLE

MEDIUM HAVING A PRIVATE KEY ENCRYPTION PROGRAM – therefor.

B. On page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION," add:

- RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a divisional of U.S. patent application serial number 08/996,758, filed on December 23, 1997. –

- C. On page 10, line 8, after "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION," add:
 - Copending U.S. patent application serial no. 08/996,758 is hereby incorporated by reference.

In the Claims:

- A. Please cancel original claims 1-97 without prejudice.
- B. Please add new claim 1 as follows:

98 2. (New)

....

\. []

M

The time of the time the

A computer-readable medium comprising a program for encrypting a private key used in cryptography, the program being executable on a computer to carry out the steps of:

dividing an exponent of the private key into a most significant portion and a least significant portion;

encrypting the least significant portion; and